AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please make the following changes to the claims of the printed patent:

1. (**Amended**) A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration [comprising] consisting essentially of a synergistic combination of a topically acceptable antiviral substance which is 1) a herpes-specific nucleoside analogue or an ester, salt or solvate thereof that is preferentially phosphorylated in virus-infected cells or 2) selected from the group consisting of cidofovir, PMEA, PAA and PFA or an ester, salt or solvate thereof, and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2. (**Amended**) A pharmaceutical composition for topical administration [comprising] consisting essentially of a synergistic combination of a topically acceptable antiviral substance selected from the group consisting of acyclovir, cidofovir, desciclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir, lobucavir,

penciclovir, PMEA, valacyclovir, 2242, PAA, PFA and H2G or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

3. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

4. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

5. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

6. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is budesonide, or an ester thereof.

7. (**Amended**) [A] The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the antiviral substance is acyclovir, or an ester, salt or solvate thereof, and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

8. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 comprising 0.1-10% foscarnet and 0.005-3% hydrocortisone.

9. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8 comprising 1-5% foscarnet.

10. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8 comprising 0.3-3% foscarnet and 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

11. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6 comprising 0.1-10% foscarnet and 0.005-3% budesonide.

12. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11 comprising 1-5% foscarnet.

13. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to

claim 7 comprising 0.1-10% acyclovir and 0.005-3% hydrocortisone.

14. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 comprising 1-5% acyclovir.

15. (**Unamended**) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 comprising 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

16. (**Unamended**) A cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen containing a pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 1-15.

17. (**Amended**) A method for the prophylaxis [and/]or treatment of herpes virus infections of the skin or mucous membranes in mammals comprising topical administration, in combination or in sequence, of a therapeutically synergistic dose of a topically acceptable antiviral substance which is 1) a herpes-specific nucleoside analogue or an ester, salt or solvate thereof that is preferentially phosphorylated in virus-infected cells or 2) selected from the group consisting of cidofovir, PMEA, PAA and PFA or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane

and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates.

18. (**Amended**) A method for the prophylaxis [and/]or treatment of herpes virus infections of the skin or mucous membranes in mammals comprising topical administration, in combination or in sequence, of a therapeutically synergistic dose of a topically acceptable antiviral substance selected from the group consisting of acyclovir, cidofovir, desciclovir, famciclovir, ganciclovir, lobucavir, pencyclovir, PMEA, valacyclovir, 2242, PAA, PFA and H2G or an ester, salt or solvate thereof and an antiinflammatory glucocorticoid selected from the group consisting of alclometasone, amicinonide, beclomethasone, budesonide, ciclesonide, clobetasone, clocortolone, cloprednol, cortison, desonide, desoximethasone, dexamethasone, diflorosane, diflucortolone, difluprednate, fludrocortisone, fludroxycortid, flumethasone, flunisolide, fluocinolone acetonide, fluocinonide, fluocortin, fluocortolone, fluprednidene, fluticasone, halcinonide, halobetasol, halometasone, hydrocortisone, methylprednisolone, mometasone, paramethasone, prednisolone, prednicarbate, prednisone, prednylidene, rofleponide, tipredane and triamcinolone and their esters, salts and solvates in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

20. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 18, wherein the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is selected from the group consisting of hydrocortisone, alclometasone, desonide, fluprednidene, flumethasone, hydrocortisone butyrate, clobetasone, triamcinolone acetonide, budesonide, desoximethasone, diflorosane, fluocinolone, fluocortolone, fluticasone, methylprednisolone aceponate, mometasone and rofleponide or an ester, salt or solvate thereof.

21. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

22. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiviral substance is foscarnet and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is budesonide, or an ester thereof.

23. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 17, wherein the antiviral substance is acyclovir, or an ester, salt or solvate thereof, and the antiinflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.

24. (**Amended**) [A] The method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of herpesvirus infections of the skin or mucous membranes in mammals comprising topical administration of a composition according to any one of claims 1-15.

25. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 24 wherein the composition is contained in a cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen.

26. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to any one of claims 17-

23, wherein the herpesvirus infection is a recurrent herpesvirus infection.

27. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to any one of claims 17-23, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

28. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 27, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

29. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 26, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

30. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 29, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

31. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to any one of claims 17-23 wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered in combination and are contained in a cream, lotion, gel, ointment, plaster, stick or pen.

32. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 24, wherein the herpesvirus infection is a recurrent herpesvirus infection.

33. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 24, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

34. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 33, wherein the

antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

35. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 31, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 1 to 10 times per day.

36. (**Amended**) [A] The method according to claim 35, wherein the antiviral substance and the glucocorticoid are administered 3 to 4 times per day.

Please add claims 37 to 40 as follows:

37. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone.

38 The method according to claims 17 or 18, wherein said glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone.

39. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2, comprising 1-5% acyclovir and 0.25-1% hydrocortisone.

40. The method according to claim 17, wherein said antiviral is acyclovir and said anti-inflammatory glucocorticoid is hydrocortisone, or an ester thereof.